SUDDEN DEATH OF AN INFANT. Though the dew-drop bright
To our waking sight
For a moment is only given, Yet tis sweet to know That when lost below, If accends to its home in heaven

#### How My Baby Competed Me.

It was only a moment's smile-only a passing plance from a soul just hovering on the borders of that land from which no words of cheer from human life have ever come, and yet it was to my soul almost as a message from the dead, and left a memory that will not fade away. For many hours I had held my dying baby in my arms. Not from any thought of further recognition, for that we had not deemed possible, but simply from a mother's uncontrolable longing to have her child close close to her in its sorest need. Hours before, the light had died from his eyes, and death's rigidity had sealed his lips. So, I sat clasping him, with what thoughts none can know save those to whom God has given the same cup to drink. I had not prayed that he might live. I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. I believe His love is wiser and tenderer than mine, even for my own child. I believe in the richness and fullness of the eternal life, and that they who go thither when the Father calls them, suffer no loss, but gather infinite gain, even if they go as infants away from all the unfulfilled possibilities of life. And so, because I loved him better than myself-as mothers do their babies-I had not asked God to leave him here with me. I had said Thy will, not mine. I had given him up, and was bearing him in sore pain into death, wishing most of all that it might soon end in his new life. Suddenly, as we watched his failing breath, with bated breath ourselves, a wondrous change came over the fixed eyes, and set lips. Back from the realms of death came the almost vanished soul. Almost as if responding to the longing love of the heart on which it lay, back to full consciousness came my baby's soul. The veil of death lifted from his eyes-every feature fell into its old repose. His eyes, deep, solemn, and beautiful as never before, and filled with an inexpressible love rested full on mine. A moment, filled with exquisite rapture, and with a singular communion of soul, and then a long, and perfect smile—one having no trace of the fearful suffering he had borne—no shade of sorrow nor pain
—a smile almost as if from eyes and lips already glorified-a smile that seemed to me to say : Be patient, be strong, there is no ceasing of love where I stand, nor where I am going. I return from Death itself to you, a moment, with my heart full as ever of the deepest human love. Again I go down into, and now through the Valley of the Shadow of Death, but I shall not forget this time either. Go you your way, and I will mine, and very, very soon we shall meet again, where I will greet your home coming, as before you greeted mine.

Do you ask what my soul said in resp. Ask the mothers whose hearts have been strong in other years, by memories as sacred as this, and who have lived their words of consethanksgiving from his mother's heart, went withmy baby, down through the darkening hours which fell at once, and left no further aign. I know, buried as he is from my sight, he is not dead, but living, loving still; and that I shall round table, in his arm-chair, the father ready yet find him again, if in patience, strength and the weekly paper. In the corner sits the mother

### OUR KARCANET.

"By means of friendship the absent are present; the needy abound; the imbecile are strong; and, what is most difficult to believe, the dead live."—

"A VIRTUOUS deed should never be delayed. The impulse comes from heaven; and he who

A moment to represe it, disobeys The god within his mind."—Dowe.

CHRISTIANITY teaches us the endurance of mis fortune; it encourages its votaries to triumph in adversity, and inspires the soul with joy in the

Human policy never fixes one end of a chain round the ankle of a slave, but divine justice rivets the other round the neck of his tyrant.

"TRUE magnanimity does not consist in never falling, but in rising every time we fall."-Gold-

"WHILE all is not Jost, all is ultimately retrievable."- Canning.

## AFTER DINNER.

Was William Penn's pocket handkerchief the original pen wiper?

Ir a toper and a quart of whisky were left to gether, which would be drunk first !

SNIGGLES says the most thrilling tale he ever

"Have you heard my last speech?" asked a political haranguer of a wit. "I hope so," was

"I came near selling my boots the other day, said John to a friend. "How so?" "Well, had them half soled." A PARTY on seeing a pencil sketch of the battle of Waterloo, said it was a drawn battle. always thought it had been one.

"Wigs," said a man, looking for his boot-jack,
"I have places where I keep my things, and you
ought to know it." "Yes, I ought to know
where you keep your late hours, but I don't."

FOUR SEASONS Pepper, Salt, Vinegar and Wear is that which has a mouth and never

speaks, and a bed in which it never sleeps? A A LOVING swain in Maine dedicated a nankin

is?" "Because, when he was praying this morning he said 'Grant, our Hearenly Father.' If he had been a Democrat, he would have said 'Gree-ley,' our Heavenly Father." The Cricket on the Hearth.

Ox returning home from church, little Freddy,

Our minister is a Republican, ain't be paf'
I hope so, my son; but why do you think be

WE propose to set spart a certain space in the GAZETTE to be devoted to the exercise and development of youthful talent, and the encourgement of their imaginative faculties. We designate that department as above,-THE CRICKET ON THE HEARTH, -because the quiet eventide and the sober bedtime hours when the Cricket's chirping are most frequently heard are favorable to excite the memory, and stimulate the imagination. Let our youthful sons and daughters avail themselves of this opportunity Write carefully, correct your compositions dili gently, affix whatever initials, or name yo choose to adopt; but the editors must have the real name of the writers, which may be given to us without hesitation ; we will not expose you.

When you are satisfied that your piece is ready then copy it plainly, writing only on one side of your paper, and directing it to "The BLOOMFIELD GAZETTE," send it to our office at the Post Office. At our request the following by a modest Miss of Bloomfield, is furnished as an introduction and a promise of compliance on the part of the young ladies. We hope the young gentlemen will be equally compliant :

Summer with its days of sunshine and of rain and hours both bright and dark, has passed swiftly away; and once more the rich autumn with it harvests of fruit and golden sheaves, receives our hearty welcome.

We too, would yield to you, kind friends, some of our first fruits-the products, not of well tilled and cultivated farms, but of the gardens of our young imaginations; and as we gather them so we will lay them, before you, from time to time, hoping that mough you may smile upon our first attempts, you will not despise the "day of small things," and we will all look for better in the future.

Knowing that when the sun of knowledge and experience shall have shone for a longer time upon our minds, we will be able to offer vot thoughts of a fuller and more perfect growth.

THE ANTIQUE CHAIR.

A broad old-fashioned fire-place, the great logs burning brightly, the wide stone hearth with the shining andirons so curiously shaped; all rise before me. Shall I tell you what I am thinking about to-night, and show you one of the many pictures "that hang on memory's walls t"

Oh! children, (let me call you so a little whil longer,) memory is one of the greatest gifts to mankind. Store up in it now that which wi be for your profit, and afford you pleasure in the years to come.

Drawing aside the veil which time stretche between the past and the present, I see, as if it were but of yesterday, a scene of long-ago. Even ing in the old homestead-a group of loved one with the firelight falling over them. By the the weekly paper. In the corner sits the mother Bloomfield, Oct. 10, 1872. Www with a sweet content upon her face, as quietly knitting, she pauses now and then, to smile upo the little ones by her side. Opposite is her eldest boy, busily whittling with a boy's genius, some wished-for or fancied toy. Next to him, merry little lad catches the thin shavings as they fall, to build small bonfires on the hearth, or hides in the hot ashes the treasured chestputs to roast for all. In the centre sits a young girl in low rocking-chair; her work has dropped from her hands and leaning back, she watches the fitful flames as if, chasing one another, they mount higher and higher. She is looking forward to the future which alas is so different from that she sees in the red, glowing embers before her. Resting against the mother's knee is her youngest, the darling of all; with one hand she softly strokes old Pussy, who in her lap enjoys the warmth and cosiness as much a

> All is still for a while, except the old clock with its ceaseless monotone, ticking away the passing hours. - When, from under the hearthtone, merrily comes the Cricket's nightly chirp chirp, chir-rp. The children listen for a while to the shrill little singer; then one whispers, "Mamma, what does the Cricket say ?" and the mother, fondly smiling, tells them the song and its meaning. How, in the bright and picasant summer-time, he cheerily lays up store for the coming winter days, and provides a snug warm house, away from the cold stones without. The meaning is for all, in the happy, summer time of youth, to improve the fleeting, golden hours; laying up those treasures that, when time's shows fall around the winding path of life, will shed light, joy, and peace. Take example of the Cricket, children, and you will always sing with as light a heart as happy a song as his.

Fast asleep has the little one gone, with Pussy gentle purring for her lullaby. The great clock slowly strikes the hour. "Bed-time, children," says the mother; and soon, with the last loving kisses given, they are far away dreaming in the

Quiet reigns now—the silence only broken by the Cricket's tremulous chirps or the busy click of the mother's needles, as she and the father sit alone by the fireside.

Now, they too have gone to rest. The fire is almost out; and in the dim, fading light, again the veil is drawn over the picture. Hoping that you may succeed in whatever you undertake, I too will say good night. Yours,

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